

REMARKS

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 38 CFR1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference signs(s) mentioned in the description: name field 32. Figure 3 has been amended to show the name field 32. A replacement figure is attached.

Claim 22 is objected to for not including a period at the end of the claim. Claim 22 has been amended to include a period.

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Goldenberg et al. "Early statistical detection of anthrax outbreaks by tracking over-the-counter medication sales" Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America. Goldberg et al. does not disclose a method or a system for detecting an event including monitoring a health symptom and activating an alert when the occurrences of the health symptom exceed a trigger value as claimed. Goldberg et al. discloses monitoring sales of over the counter (OTC) medications to detect a bioterrorism attack, but does not disclose monitoring a occurrences of health symptom. The Examiner states that the purchasing of OTC medication is synonymous with "monitoring occurrences of at least one health symptom" because OTC medication purchases are "symptoms of fever, nausea, vomiting, headaches, etc." At best, these sales would be symptoms of health symptoms. But these sales are not themselves "health symptoms," nor do they indicate the "occurrences of health symptoms." The sales of OTC medications would be over-inclusive or under-inclusive of the occurrences of health symptoms. OTC medication purchases are not "occurrences of health symptoms," and therefore the sales of OTC medications is not the same as the occurrences of a health symptom.

For example, one could purchase cold medicine to treat a variety of symptoms, such as coughing, sneezing, congestions and fever. An individual with only coughing symptoms could purchase the cold medicine, even if the individual is not experiencing the other health symptoms (sneezing, congestion and fever).

Additionally, OTC medication could be purchased for an entire family for sharing. The sales of the OCT medication would not capture the "occurrences of health" symptoms as multiple people could use a single purchase of OTC medication. Therefore, the sale of the OTC medicine does not indicate the occurrence of the health symptoms that an individual is experiencing. Goldberg et al. does not disclose monitoring the occurrences of health symptoms

as claimed, and the claimed invention is novel in view of Goldberg et al. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C. \$200.00, for eight additional claims in excess of twenty. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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